

Pursuant to Article 18, paragraph 1, indent 15, Article 20, paragraph 1, indent 12, and Article 87 and Article 88 of the Law on Audio and Audiovisual Media Services (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia” No. 184/13, 13/14, 44/14, 101/14 and 132/14), in connection with Article 15, paragraph 1, indent 14 and Article 39, paragraph 1, indent 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services No. 01-4351/1 dated 29 August 2014, and in accordance with the Statement of the Council of the Agency No. 02-1783/3 dated 12 March 2015, the Council of the Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services, at its 10th session held on 12 March 2015, adopted

DECISION
ON DETERMINING A LIST OF EVENTS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE
FOR THE PUBLIC OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

1. By means of this Decision a list of events (national or international) has been established, the television broadcasting of which is considered to be of great importance for the population of the Republic of Macedonia and that meet at least two (2) of the following criteria:
 - The event and its outcome have great publicity among the population of the Republic of Macedonia, and not only in that part which regularly monitors the event or activities in question;
 - The event has generally recognized, distinct cultural importance for the population of the Republic of Macedonia and contains elements of its cultural identity;
 - It includes a national team or national representative in a particular sport at a major international tournament;
 - The event has been traditionally broadcasted on the television programme services with free access (free television), i.e. has been broadcasted via the transmission capacity of a digital terrestrial multiplex and no additional fee is paid for it, it has also attracted a wide audience in the Republic of Macedonia. The broadcasting fee shall not be considered an additional fee.

2. As events of great importance for the Republic of Macedonia shall be defined:
 - Winter Olympics;
 - Summer Olympics;
 - Qualifying matches that the Macedonian national football team in the men's competition - seniors plays, at home or abroad, for placement in the European Football Championship;
 - The match whereby the European Football Championship is declared open, semi-final matches, the final match and the matches involving the Macedonian national football team in the men's competition - seniors;
 - Qualifying matches that the Macedonian national football team in the men's competition - seniors plays, at home or abroad, for placement in the World Football Championship;
 - The match whereby the World Football Championship is declared open, semi-final matches, the final match and the matches involving the Macedonian national football team in the men's competition - seniors;

- UEFA Champions League in the men's competition - seniors: semi-final matches, the final match and matches involving clubs from the Republic of Macedonia;
 - UEFA Europa League in the men's competition - seniors: semi-final matches, the final match and matches involving clubs from the Republic of Macedonia;
 - Matches of friendly nature (control matches) where the Macedonian national football team in the men's competition - seniors performs, played at home and outside the borders of the Republic of Macedonia;
 - European and World Basketball Championship in men's competition - seniors: semi-final matches, the final match, matches involving the Macedonian basketball team, including qualifying matches in which it participates;
 - European and World Volleyball Championships in men's competition- seniors: semi-final matches, the final match, matches involving the Macedonian volleyball team, including qualifying matches in which it participates;
 - European Cup competitions - Handball Champions League, in women's and men's competition - seniors: semi-final matches, the final match, matches involving clubs from the Republic of Macedonia, including qualifying matches involving clubs from the Republic of Macedonia;
 - European and World Handball Championships in women's and men's competition - seniors: semi-final matches, the final match, matches involving Macedonian handball teams, including qualifying matches in which they participate.
3. If the events of major importance stated in the list referred to in item 2 of this Decision are organized into sections, then each part of the event is considered an event of major importance.
 4. All events of major importance stated in the list referred to in item 2 of this Decision, shall be broadcasted live and in full.

In cases when important events take place simultaneously, or the time of the event is in the period from 24:00 to 6:00 pm, according to the official time in the Republic of Macedonia, then qualified broadcasters will decide independently which of the events will be broadcast live and in full, and which will be presented later, as a recording.

Delayed broadcast of events of major importance should not exceed 24 hours from the time of the event.

The provisions of this item shall also apply to the cases provided for in item 3 of this Decision.

5. In order to protect the right of the public to have access to events of great importance, and to prevent a broadcaster, obtaining the exclusive right to broadcast the event, to deprive a substantial segment of the population of the opportunity to follow the event, it is determined that qualified broadcasters to broadcast these events shall be all broadcasters that meet the following four (4) criteria:
 - With their signal they cover at least 80% of the population of the Republic of Macedonia;

- The access to their programme service is free, which means that it is broadcasted through the transmission capacity of a digital terrestrial multiplex and no additional fee is paid for it;
 - The programming service is broadcasted in uncoded form; and
 - The events of great significance are broadcasted in Macedonian language.
6. If qualified broadcasters have technical capabilities, commercial interest and if, in accordance with their license or by law, (in the case of the PBS) the programme service is broadcasted in several languages, they may broadcast these events in Macedonian language and also in other languages of the ethnic communities living in the Republic of Macedonia.
 7. Qualified broadcasters are not allowed to use the exclusive rights to broadcast events of major importance for society in a manner that people in other countries will be prevented from following the event that the respective country reported as an event of great significance.
 8. Regarding this Decision, the Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services shall inform the European Commission and the Committee on Transfrontier Television of the Council of Europe and it shall be published in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia", and posted on the website of the Agency.
 9. This Decision shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia".

**Agency for Audio and
Audiovisual Media Services**

President of the Council

Lazo PETRUSHEVSKI, handwritten signature

No. 02-1875/1

12 MARCH 2015

Skopje